# "AUTHORITY TO PRESENT THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL"

## GALATIANS 1:1-5

1. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS CUSTOMIZED THE STANDARD OPENINGS OF NEW TESTAMENT EPISTOLARY LITERATURE (1:1-2)**
   1. The Sender: Paul Emphasizes His Primary Credential Qualifying Him To Present The Truth Of The Gospel
      1. He Employs A Term That Has Been Restricted In Its Usage To Only a Few Certain Men
         1. Men "Commissioned" For A Specific Purpose
         2. A Few Instances Of Men Commissioned By Churches
            1. Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25)
            2. Andronicus & Junia (Romans 16:7)
            3. Barnabas (Acts 14:4)
         3. Twelve Designated To Be With Christ
            1. Saul Of Tarsus
            2. Mathias
            3. Household Of God Built Upon The Foundation They Laid (Ephesians 2:20)
            4. Witnesses To The Resurrected Christ (Acts 1:21-22; 2:32; 3:15; I Cor. 9:1)
      2. He Employs A Term Which Is Qualified Very Carefully
         1. Denial Of Any Human Authorization
         2. Affirmation Of The Authorization Of The Risen Christ
         3. Unanimous Confirmation Regarding Paul's Apostolic Authority By The Brethren Who Were With Him At The Time Of The Writing (Gal. 1:2)
   2. The Recipients: "The Churches Of Galatia" (1:2)
      1. North Galatian Theory
      2. South Galatian Theory
2. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS CUSTOMIZED THE GREETING, IN THIS CASE, TO PRESENT THE ESSENCE OF EVERYTHING THAT WILL FOLLOW IN THIS EPISTLE (1:3-5)** 
   1. The Foundation Of That Essence, Unlike That Of The False Brethren, Is Seen In God's Apostle Bringing Them To Mind Of The "Grace" And "Peace" That Is There's (1:3)
   2. The Basis Upon Which God Could Bestow Such Favor Is The Substitutionary Work Of Christ (1:4a)
   3. The Purpose For Which He Agreed To Such A Stupendous Sacrifice (1:4b)
   4. The Reason For Carrying Out Such An Objective: The Glory Of God (1:5)